



GOVERNING BOARD AGENDA ITEM
AMPHITHEATER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10

DATE OF MEETING: November 13, 2018

TITLE: **Study, Discussion and Vote Regarding Recommended Revisions to the Bylaws and Core Beliefs of the Arizona School Boards Association**

BACKGROUND: On October 16, 2018, the Governing Board reviewed proposals for bylaw changes to the Bylaws of the Arizona School Boards Association (ASBA) of which Amphitheater is a member. The ASBA submitted two proposals for bylaw changes to be considered by the Governing Board. The proposals were as follows:

Proposal A With an endorsement from the ASBA Board of Directors and the ASBA Governance Committee, the ASBA Equity Committee proposes that an additional statement on Equity should be added to the ASBA Core Belief Statement:

[Every school board has the responsibility to champion and pursue educational equity for every student by challenging systemic inequities.](#)

Background: The additional statement will enhance ASBA's Core Beliefs regarding educational equity for every student.

Proposal B ASBA Governance Committee recommends that a bylaw may be amended or repealed by a majority affirmative vote of all member boards.

Background: Currently, a minimum of two-thirds (66 percent) of all ASBA member boards must vote in the affirmative to amend or repeal a bylaw.

These Bylaws or the Core Beliefs may be amended or repealed, or new ones adopted as follows:

- (a) *By a majority affirmative vote of ~~two-thirds of the~~ all member board using an electronic vote of the membership using a procedure adopted by the Board of Directors.*

At the October 16th meeting, the Governing Board voted to approve Proposal A. It also directed Administration to obtain more information about the reason for Proposal B to help the Board understand the rationale behind that proposal. Specifically, the Board requested to know how often ASBA has been unable to hold a vote on a Bylaw change due to an inability to reach a quorum for the vote.

Administration reached out to ASBA after the October 16th meeting to obtain the requested information. Tracy Benson, Associate Director of the ASBA, provided the following statement in response.

“Here is some history the board may find helpful in making its decision. In 2014, ASBA members voted to amend the bylaws to the two-third affirmative rule that is currently in place. Prior to that, bylaws could be changed by a simple majority affirmative vote of those individuals who attended our annual business meeting. Attendance at that meeting was typically 60-70 districts, and our board of directors felt that was too few members making such

an important decision. Our board asked our governance committee to set a higher bar and the bylaw currently in place is the result. Since that rule has been in place, we have never received the 148 yes votes needed to pass a bylaw. In fact, the highest number of total votes we have receive on a bylaw amendment (yes and no combined) is 128. The proposed bylaw up for consideration and vote this year was put forward by our governance committee to temper that 2014 change. They believe that is keeps the bar high, but makes amendment to this important governance document possible. Under the proposed amendment, 112 yes votes would be need to pass a bylaw amendment.”

Electronic voting on the proposed changes to the Bylaws and Core Beliefs is now open and will closed on Thursday, December 6, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

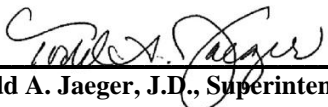
RECOMMENDATION: The Administration recommends that the Governing Board study, discuss and vote on the proposed changes to the ASBA Bylaws and Core Beliefs.

INITIATED BY:



Michelle H. Tong, J.D.,
Associate to the Superintendent and General Counsel

Date: November 7, 2018



Todd A. Jaeger, J.D., Superintendent